

REMARKS

The accompanying verified translation establishes the entitlement of the present application to the priority date of December 18, 2002, thereby to overcome VISWANATH U.S. Patent 7,412,726 as a reference.

This leaves LEE U.S. Patent 5,923,759 as the only available prior art.

Claim 1 has been amended to recite more clearly that the invention relates to a microcircuit card receiving a continuous stream of digital data, as explained on page 7, line 17 of the specification.

LEE describes a conventional system for exchanging data with smart cards. However, the concerned smart cards are not designed to receive a continuous stream of digital data and do not include therefore any stream control means as claimed.

There is therefore no reason why the LEE document would either anticipate or suggest the invention defined in claim 1 and claims depending thereupon, which relates to the field of microcircuit cards processing a continuous stream of digital data.

Claim 9 has been amended more precisely to recite the operation of the stream control means in stopping the transfer of the continuous stream. Thus, the processing means 12 insert into the security data DATA_CTRL a result of processing of the digital data DATA by the calculation unit 13. This processing result is,

for example, the address at which a portion of the digital data DATA has been stored in the storage area 18 by the transfer means DMA, the stream control means 26 then being adapted to read the data of that portion, verify its validity, and control the transfer of the digital data DATA by the transfer means DMA as a function of the result of this verification.

As previously indicated, the rejection of claim 14 is overcome by the verified translation; but it should also be noted that the features recited therein are not obvious in the field of microcircuit cards, as explained in the introduction of the specification.

New claims 16 and 17 are directed to the embodiment described on page 10, line 31 to page 11, line 22 of the specification and are of course patentable for the reasons set forth in connection with claim 1.

In view of the present amendment and the foregoing Remarks, therefore, it is believed that this application has been placed in condition for allowance, and reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any

overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

YOUNG & THOMPSON



Robert J. Patch, Reg. No. 17,355
209 Madison Street, Suite 500
Alexandria, VA 22314
Telephone (703) 521-2297
Telefax (703) 685-0573
(703) 979-4709

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